

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is submitted for the following reasons:


1. To provide the necessary cross-reference to the parent International Application;
2. To correct numerous informalities and grammatical and syntax errors in the specifica-
- 5 tion, and to provide headings;
3. To amend the claims to remove improper multiple dependencies;
4. To provide an Abstract that is in compliance with the 150 word limit; and
5. To correct errors in the reference numerals in the drawings.

No new matter has been added.

10 An expeditious examination is respectfully requested.

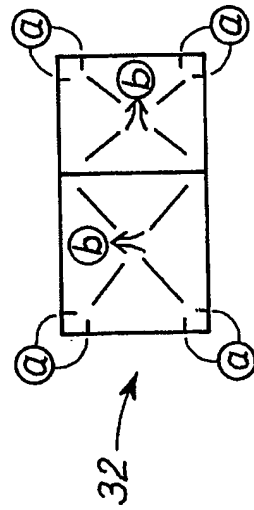
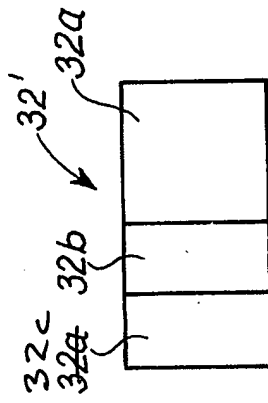
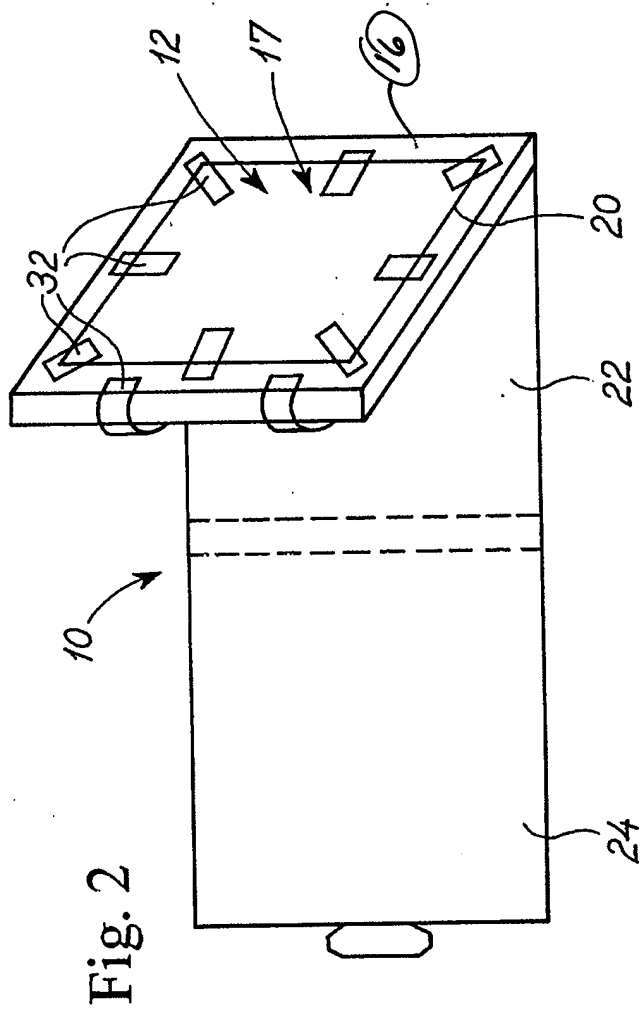
Respectfully submitted,

15 Date: May 19, 2004


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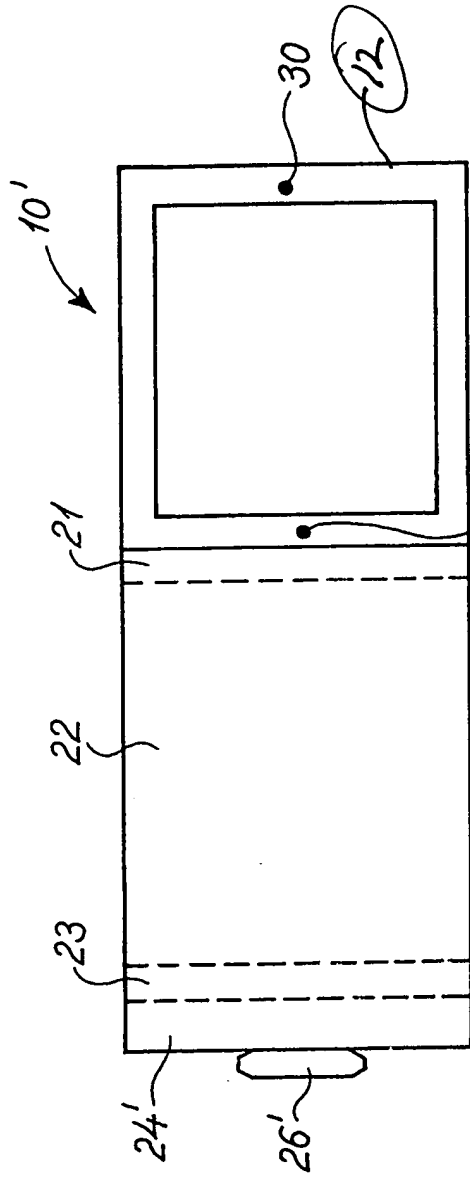


Fig. 4a

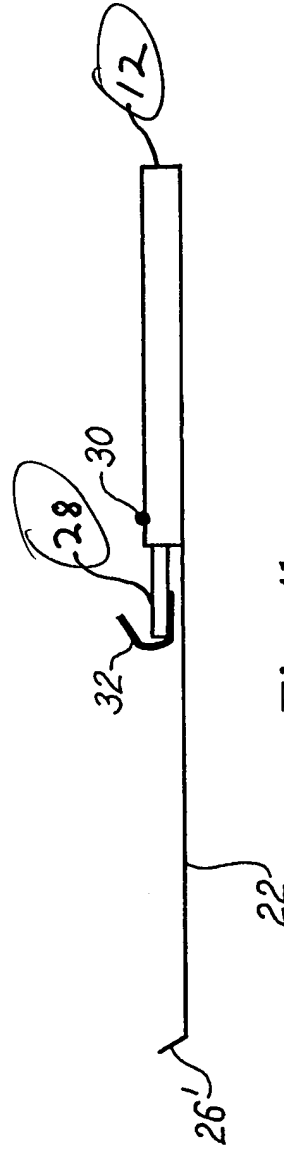


Fig. 4b

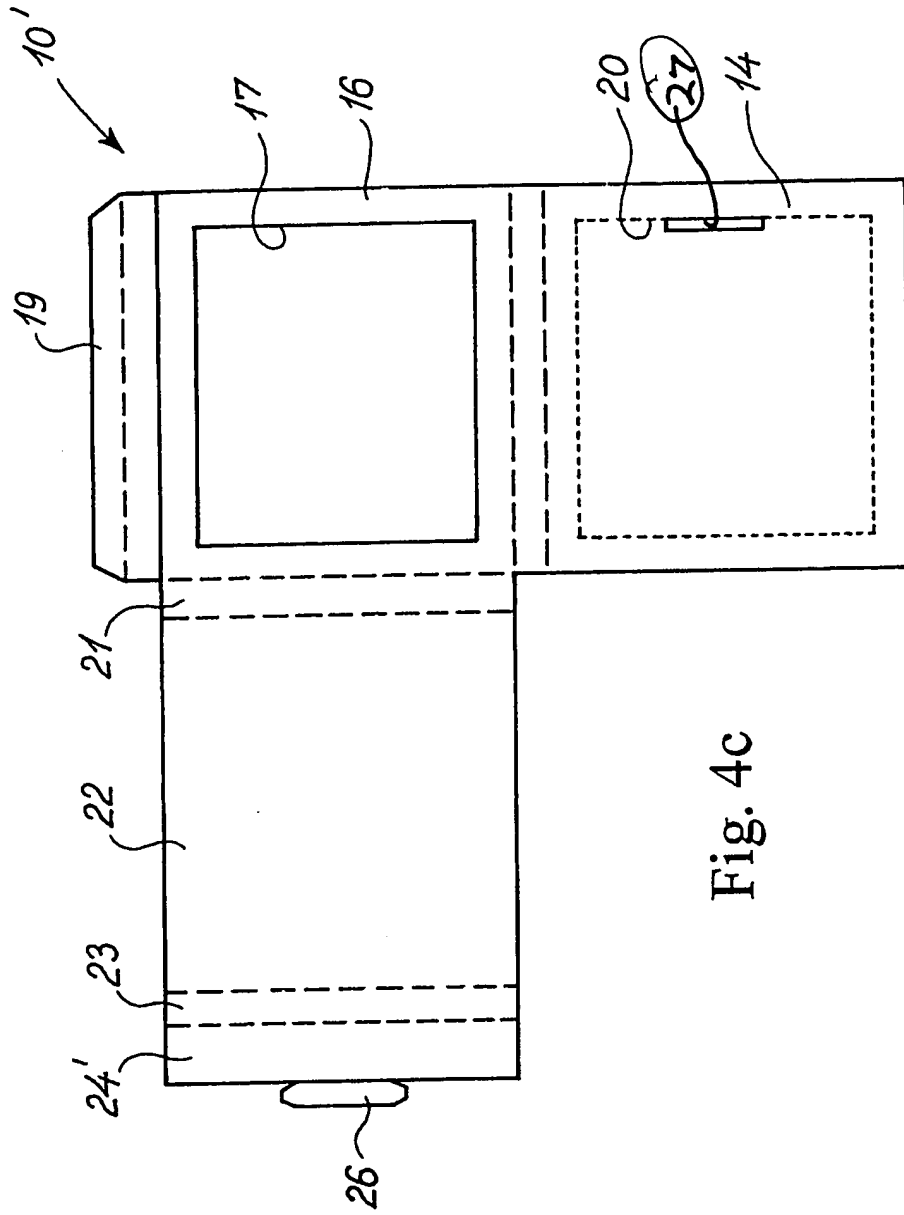


Fig. 4c

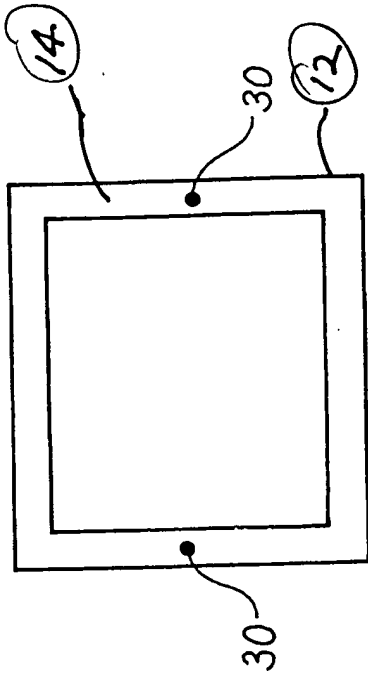


Fig. 5a

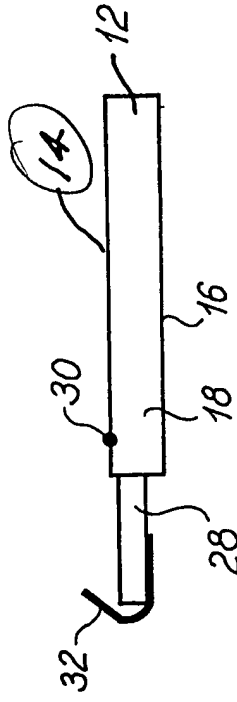


Fig. 5b

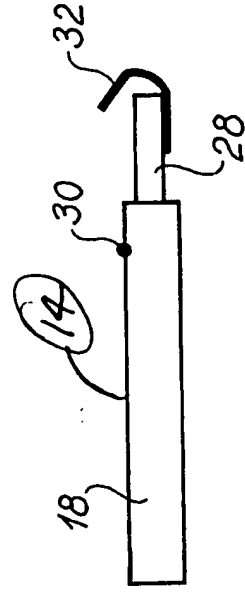


Fig. 5c